DATE 10/10/79

ADVISORY CIRCULAR



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Aviation Administration
Washington, D.C.

FAR GUIDANCE MATERIAL

Subject: AVIATION SECURITY - CARRIAGE OF WEAPONS AND ESCORTED PERSONS

- 1. PURPOSE. This circular provides information and guidance for the implementation of amendments to Federal Aviation Regulations (FARs) under Part 121, concerning the Carriage of Weapons and Escorted Persons. The original amendment was published in the Federal Register on April 21, 1975, 40 F.R. 17551, Docket No. 13057; Amendment No. 121-118, effective July 20, 1975. Minor changes in these requirements were brought about by FAR Amendment No. 121-142, published in the Federal Register on March 23, 1978, 43 F.R. 11974, effective April 24, 1978. As a result of the more recent amendment, it is necessary to revise this circular so it will be in conformance with the latest regulatory changes. These amendments provide rules for the carriage of persons in custody of armed law enforcement officers aboard certain scheduled passenger flights and the carriage of deadly or dangerous weapons aboard all aircraft operating under Part 121 rules including air taxi commercial operations when such operations are conducted pursuant to applicable sections of FAR Part 121.
- 2. <u>FCCUS</u>. Amendment 121-142 changed the applicability of Section 121.584 whereby this section, excluding passengers under protective escort, applies only to scheduled passenger operations conducted by domestic and flag air carriers plus intrastate operators identified in Section 121.7 since these operators are required by regulation to comply with the rules applicable to domestic carriers. Section 121.585 applies to the following certificate holders:
 - a. Part 121 of the FARs
- (1) Domestic Air Carriers, e.g., Ozark Air Lines, Inc., Republic Airlines, Inc.
- (2) Flag Air Carriers, e.g., Pan American World Airways, Inc., United Air Lines, Inc., etc.
- (3) Commercial Operators, e.g., Global International Airways Corporation, Fairways Corporation, etc.

Initiated by: ACS-100

- (4) Supplemental (Charter) Air Carriers, e.g., Zantop International Airlines, Inc., Rich International Airways, etc.
- (5) Scheduled Intrastate Commercial Operators, e.g., Air South, Inc., Great Northern Airlines, Inc., etc.
- (6) Scheduled Cargo, e.g., Airlift International, The Flying Tiger Line, Inc., etc.
- b. Part 135 (Section 135.2) Air Taxi Operators and Commercial Operators, e.g., Zantop Airways, Inc., Hansa Jet Corporation, Florida Airlines, Inc., etc.
- c. Part 123 Air Travel Clubs, e.g., Ports of Call, the Atlanta Skylarks Travel Club, etc.
- d. Section 121.585 also applies to each person who is on board an aircraft being operated by the above identified certificate holders.
- 3. CANCELLATION. AC 121-18 dated July 15, 1975, subject as above, is canceled.
- 4. RELATED FARS AND OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION. FAR Amendments No. 121-118, 121-120 and 121-142 concerning the Carriage of Weapons and Escorted Persons and published in the Federal Register on April 21, 1975, June 19, 1975, and March 23, 1978, respectively; Public Law 93-366 enacted by Congress on August 5, 1974.

5. BACKGROUND.

- a. Initially, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) observed that a large number of hijacking incidents over the past years created a potentially dangerous situation with respect to persons legally carrying weapons aboard aircraft as authorized by Section 121.585 of FAR Part 121. Persons legally armed often were not made aware of the presence of other legally armed persons on board the same aircraft. Moreover, these persons were frequently escorting prisoners, whose presence required additional security measures. In addition, there have been instances when inadequate identification procedures resulted in the carriage of deadly or dangerous weapons by persons not authorized to do so under this section of the regulations. Such inadequate procedures have disrupted law enforcement missions in which the officer's anonymity was essential to its success, because an uninformed security officer or employee of an air carrier questioned the officer's authority to carry a weapon, after he had already cleared the air carrier's security procedures.
- b. In an effort to eliminate the above problems and to achieve standardization of procedures in the carriage of weapons and the air transportation of escorted persons and their escorts, a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) on this subject was published in the Federal Register July 27, 1973. After considering the comments in response to the NPRM and the subsequent enactment

by Congress of Public Law 93-366 on August 5, 1974, which among other things, amended Section 902(1) of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958, having to do with the carriage of weapons aboard aircraft, FAA issued FAR Amendment 121-118 on April 12, 1975. Since that time, administrative experience indicated minor changes were needed in these rules. This was accomplished by Amendment 121-142 which became effective April 24, 1978. This circular is being updated to conform to that amendment.

- 6. <u>DISCUSSION</u>. Because of the changes and requirements to be met by certificate holders and others affected by these amendments, further explanation is provided. The affected FAR sections are discussed below.
- a. <u>Subparagraph 121.538 (c)(4)</u> recognizes the fact that there are certain persons authorized to carry weapons aboard the certificate holders aircraft. Therefore, certificate holders should include this information in their security programs, manuals or documents to insure that their personnel are trained and familiar with these requirements and the handling of these persons prior to, during and after their flight.
- b. Amended Section 121.575(b) prohibits certificate holders from serving any alcoholic beverage to any person aboard its aircraft who appears to be intoxicated; to any person(s) who is under escort and in custody of an armed law enforcement official and being escorted in accordance with new Section 121.584; and to those persons having a weapon accessible to them in connection with their duty while aboard the aircraft.
- c. Amended Section 121.584 does not apply to persons under voluntary protective escort. It only applies to scheduled passenger operations conducted by domestic and flag air carriers and intrastate operators identified in Section 121.7. Amended Section 121.584 provides for the carriage of persons in the custody of armed law enforcement officers. It specifies certain requirements which must be met before and during such carriage.
- d. Section 121.585(a) identifies persons that may be authorized to carry deadly or dangerous weapons aboard aircraft operated by these certificate holders and further prescribes procedures that must be followed for such carriage. It also clarifies the fact that in addition to officials or employees of the United States, officials or employees of States or a political subdivision of a State or municipality and others may be authorized to carry weapons when a need exists during the flight. However, it restricts the carriage of weapons by any person to only those occasions where it is necessary for an authorized person to have a weapon accessible in connection with the performance of duty during that period from the time it would otherwise have been checked until such time as it would have been returned to the individual after deplaning. In addition, any person who is authorized to carry a weapon aboard the certificate holders aircraft other than an official or employee of the United States, a State or political subdivision of a State or municipality must have successfully completed a course of training in the use of arms acceptable to the Administrator.

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- e. Amended Section 121.585, paragraph (c) sets forth specific requirements to be met before any passenger may carry, or be permitted by the certificate holder to carry, a firearm in checked baggage. It prohibits the carriage of any loaded firearm in checked baggage. For the carriage of an unloaded firearm, it requires the passenger to notify the certificate holder before checking the baggage that a firearm is in the baggage and requires the carrier to obtain from that passenger a declaration to the effect that the firearm is unloaded. If the firearm is other than a shotgun, rifle or other weapon normally fired from the shoulder position, the baggage in which the firearm is carried must be locked and the passenger checking the baggage must retain the key. A combination to a lock is considered a key for the purpose of this regulation. Baggage containing any firearm must be carried in an area where it is inaccessible to passengers, and other than the flight crew compartment.
- f. Section 121.585(d) specifies that no person having a deadly or dangerous weapon accessible to him may drink any alcoholic beverage while aboard an aircraft being operated under Part 121.
- 7. PROCEDURES FOR CARRIAGE OF WEAPONS ABOARD AIRCRAFT. Persons authorized to carry weapons fall into two groups. Those in the first group are specified in FAR 121.585(a)(1)(i). They are Federal (including military), state, municipal, county, and political subdivision officials and employees. These persons are identified in this circular as Law Enforcement Officials (LEOs). The second group encompassed by FAR 121.585(a)(1)(ii) are persons such as domestic and foreign guards (Brinks, Pinkerton, etc.) and referred to in this circular as persons other than LEOs. An individual in either group must need to have a weapon accessible in the performance of official duty during that period of time from the time it would otherwise have been placed in checked baggage until such time as it would have been returned after deplaning.
- a. <u>General Procedures Applicable to All Armed Individuals</u>. An individual to be armed during flight must:
 - (1) Be authorized to have the weapon.
- (2) Notify the certificate holder of the need to have the weapon accessible in connection with the performance of duty during the period from the time the individual would otherwise have checked it until the time it would have been returned to the individual after deplaning.
- (3) Notify the certificate holder of the flight on which the individual intends to have a weapon at least one hour prior to flight departure; or in an emergency, as soon as practicable.
- (4) Present identification to the certificate holder by displaying credentials that include a clear full face picture, the individual's signature and the signature of an authorizing official or the official seal of the individual's agency.

- (5) Not drink any alcoholic beverage while aboard an aircraft operated by a certificate holder.
- b. <u>General Procedures Applicable to Certificate Holders</u>. When a certificate holder carries individuals authorized to be armed, the certificate holder must ensure that:
- (1) Prior to boarding, the armed individual is advised of its procedures for the carriage of a dangerous or deadly weapon aboard its aircraft. This information may be provided on printed card(s).
- (2) The identity of the armed person is known to each armed law enforcement officer and each employee of the certificate holder responsible for security during the boarding of the aircraft. Discretion should be employed to protect the person's identity.
- (3) Appropriate crewmembers have been notified of the location of each armed LEO aboard the aircraft. In the event more than one armed LEO is aboard a flight, each armed LEO must be notified of the seat location of the other armed person(s).
- (4) No alcoholic beverage is served to an armed person or a person in custody.

NOTE: Enclosed as Appendix 1 is a suggested form that could be used by the carrier to authenticate these requirements.

- c. <u>Procedures for LEOs</u>. For the purpose of this circular, LEOs are divided into two groups, Federal Law Enforcement Officers and other Law Enforcement Officials.
- (1) Procedures for Federal Law Enforcement fficers. Each Federal law enforcement agency that anticipates a need for an authorized employee of that agency to carry a dangerous weapon in the cabin compartment of an air carrier aircraft should submit to the FAA, Office of Civil Aviation Security, Attention: Air Operations Security Division, ACS-100, a copy of their policy under which employees under their jurisdiction are required to be armed during flight. FAA will retain a copy of the policy for each Federal agency. A Federal law enforcement official who is authorized within the established policy of the employing agency to carry a weapon aboard an air carrier aircraft is required to notify the carrier involved of the flight on which that person intends to be armed in accordance with the procedures set forth in subparagraph 7a above. The procedures of subparagraph 7a also apply to military persons that need to be armed during flight.
- (2) Procedures for Other Law Enforcement Officials. Each officer with a requirement to carry a dangerous weapon in the cabin compartment of an air carrier aircraft should provide a letter to the air carrier that specifies the circumstance(s) that create the need to be armed during the flight(s) being utilized. This letter should be on the letterhead of the jurisdiction

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employing the officer and signed by a supervisory official. Such letter should specify the trip itinerary and include a designated period during which the need to be armed in flight will exist. The procedures of subparagraph 7(a) also apply.

- d. Procedures for Armed Persons Other Than LEOs. (The procedures in this paragraph do not apply to armed escorts for foreign dignitaries when those escorts are not U.S. officials. Procedures for the authorization of those escorts are explained in subparagraph 7e of this circular.) Prior to Amendment 121-118, FAR 121.585(b) provided for the authorization by the certificate holder of persons to carry weapons in flight. FAR 121.585, as amended by Amendments 121-118 and 121-142, provides that such persons must be authorized by the Administrator as well as by the certificate holder. Authorizations previously issued by certificate holders expired July 19, 1975. The Administrator issues such authorizations when the persons to be authorized:
- (1) Have satisfactorily completed, within the preceding twelve months, a course of training in the use of firearms acceptable to the Administrator. Courses of training conducted by or approved by law enforcement agencies (Federal, State or local) are generally acceptable to the Administrator.
- (2) Provide documentary evidence to the certificate holder that indicates satisfactory course completion such as a certificate of completion signed by a supervisory law enforcement official of the jurisdiction in which the training was conducted.
- (3) Have approval of the certificate holder and are recommended by name by the certificate holder to the FAA Principal Security Inspector (PSI) assigned. The PSI will review the documentation and determine if the need to carry arms is justified. Approval(s) will be granted on a case-by-case basis for a period of time not greater than six months. The PSI will notify the carrier. Where no PSI is assigned, e.g., travel clubs, the appropriate Office of Civil Aviation Security representative of the FAA region having geographical jurisdiction will handle the approval request. A copy of such notification should be provided the Office of Civil Aviation Security. The procedures set forth in subparagraphs 7a and 7b apply.
- e. Procedures for Armed Escorts, Other Than U.S. Officials, Accompanying Foreign Dignitaries. Occasionally, foreign dignitaries desire to travel on U.S. air carriers accompanied by armed escort provided by the foreign government involved or international organizations such as the United Nations. The procedure for obtaining FAA authorization as required by FAR 121.585(a)(1)(ii) for these escorts is for these individuals to submit through their government the names and itinerary of the traveler and all escorting personnel involved to the Department of State. The FAA may issue authorization for escorts who have been trained in the use of firearms within the preceding twelve months. The Department of State must be advised of such training and will in turn, notify the Office of Civil Aviation Security, Intelligence and International Security Division (ACS-400) specifying that the escort has undergone the required training, the travel is official travel and will provide the names and itinerary of all

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individuals involved. The Intelligence and International Security Division will complete the necessary coordination between the FAA, the carrier and the Department of State.

- f. Procedures for Armed Federal Law Enforcement Officials Escorting
 Foreign Dignitaries and Accompanying Personnel. Procedures are in effect for
 those Federal agencies which are charged with the responsibility of escorting
 foreign dignitaries and accompanying personnel to provide FAA advance notification of the details concerning the travel. Upon receipt of this information,
 FAA will confer with air carrier representatives to assure appropriate
 authorizations are secured and provided for the armed persons involved.
- 8. PROCEDURES FOR LEOS ESCORTING PERSONS IN THEIR CUSTODY ABOARD AIR CARRIER AIRCRAFT (NOT APPLICABLE TO ARMED ESCORTS OF FOREIGN DIGNITARIES AND OTHER PERSONS UNDER PROTECTIVE ESCORT). Section 121.584 contains certain specific procedures which must be followed by certificate holders and those LEOs who are escorting persons in their custody by air transportation. These procedures are in addition to those already incorporated as a part of this circular for LEOs traveling armed.
- a. An armed LEO who has in custody a person being transported by air transportation is required to:
- (1) Notify the certificate holder at least one hour before departure, or in an emergency as soon as practicable, of the identity of the escorted person and the flight on which that person will be carried.
- (2) Determine and notify the certificate holder as to whether the escorted person is considered in a maximum risk category by the government entity having such custody. As a general rule, a person in a maximum risk category is one who may be expected to initiate an action during the flight which could jeopardize the safety of the flight. Two LEOs are required for the escort of one maximum risk category person. One LEO may escort no more than two persons in a risk category less than that of maximum risk. Where a question arises concerning risk category, the governmental entity responsible for the person in custody should be relied on for such a determination. Risk categories used by several government entities are: extreme (not flyable), maximum, medium, and minimum.
- (3) Assure the certificate holder that the person in custody has been searched and does not have on or about the individual's person or property any article that could be used as a deadly or dangerous weapon and would be accessible while aboard the aircraft.
- (4) Be equipped with adequate restraining devices to be used in the event that a determination is made that restraint of the person in custody is or becomes necessary.
- (5) Assure that the escorted person is accompanied at all times and kept under surveillance.

Par 7 7

	CHECK ONE: (LEO means Law Enf	orcement Officer)
Passenger's Name Flt. No Seat No From	Armed LEO Transporting a Prisoner Not in Maximum Risk Category	Armed LEO Transporting a Prisoner in the Maximum Risk Category
Authorizing Agency	Armed Individual Traveling	Armed Protective Escort
Unless specifically authorized, Federal Aviation Regultheir person a deadly or dangerous weapon (including m commercial aircraft. This regulation allows certain o subdivision of a State or of a municipality and certain specifically authorized and have a need during flight travel while armed.	ace, etc.), either concealed or u fficials or employees of the Unit n other individuals who are on of	nconcealed, while aboard a ed States, a State or political ficial business, have been
PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES: THEY OUTLINE WH	AT IS EXPECTED OF YOU WHILE IN OU	IR BOARDING AREAS AND WHILE IN FLIG
 If you are authorized to carry a concealed weapon, Other armed passengers, the flight attendant and c Our flight attendants and pilots have been instructather passengers and do not expect your help. Distinct dangerous than the original disturbance and isabled, the flight could end in disaster. Also, are many fuel lines, control cables, electrical with subject to damage or destruction by a stray bullet A person having a weapon accessible in flight will If you are a guard accompanying a prisoner the fol 	aptain will be informed that you ted how to handle passenger distucharge of a firearm aboard an aim of this includes hijacking. If the behind the walls, under the floores and hydraulic systems all estor a ricochet. Not be served alcoholic beverage	are armed. irbances without assistance from craft could cause a situation far se pilots were accidentially or, and above the ceiling there sential to safe flight and all
A. You must be equipped with adequate restraining necessary for adequate control of the prisoner B. You normally will be pre-boarded, and you will the cabin. You must sit between the prisoner C. You must accompany the prisoner if a visit to D. At your destination you must remain seated unt E. You and your prisoner will not be served and m.	or safety of others. be assigned to the rear-most availed the aisle. the levatory is required. il all other deplaning passengers	illable row of passenger seats in
BY YOUR SIGNATURE BELOW AND BY PRESENTING PROPER DOCUM WEAPONS AND AS BEING ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS FOR THE AGEN	CY NAMED ABOVE.	
	ION IDENTIFICATION CHECK: I HAVE	REVIEWED THE IDENTIFICATION OF TH
Passenger's Signature STAT INDIVIDUAL NAMED ABOVE.		
INDIVIDUAL NAMED ABOVE.		Date:
INDIVIDUAL NAMED ABOVE. Manager or Designated Management Representative:		
INDIVIDUAL NAMED ABOVE. Manager or Designated Management Representative: GROUND AGENT: WHEN COMPLETED AND SIGNED, ATTACH ORIGINATION COPY TO PASSENGER. FLIGHT ATTENDANT: PICKUP WITH BOARDING PASS, INFORM CEACH OTHERS' PRESENCE.	NAL TO BOARDING PASS, PLACE BLUE APTAIN AND DISCRETELY ASSURE ALL	COPY IN FLIGHT FILE, AND GIVE
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FAA ALASKAN REGION

Air Transportation Security
Division, AAL-700
701 C Street, P. O. Box 14
Anchorage, Alaska 99513
Commercial: 907-271-5557
FTS: Seattle Operator 8-399-0150
ask for 271-5557

FAA CENTRAL REGION

Air Transportation Security
Division, ACE-700
601 East 12th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64106
Commercial: 816-374-3901
FTS: 8-758-3901

FAA EASTERN REGION

Air Transportation Security
Division, AEA-700
Federal Building #111
JFK International Airport
Jamaica, New York 11430
Commercial: 212-995-9520
FTS: 8-665-9520

<u>ATSFOs</u>

Air Transportation Security
Field Office - ANC ATSFO
P. O. Box 6478
Anchorage, Alaska 99502
Commercial: 907-243-4338
FTS: Seattle Operator 8-399-0150
ask for 243-4338

Air Transportation Security Field Office - MCI ATSFO P. O. Box 20003 Kansas City, Missouri 64195 Commercial: 816-243-3820 FTS: 8-754-3820

Air Transportation Security Field Office - STL ATSFO Lambert-St. Louis Int'l Airport P. O. Box 10306 St. Louis, Missouri 64135 Commercial: 314-425-7050 FTS: 8-279-7050

Air Transportation Security Field Office - BAL ATSFO Pier C, Baltimore-Washington International Airport Baltimore, Maryland 21240 Commercial: 301-962-2795 FTS: 8-922-2795

Air Transportation Security Field Office - EWR ATSFO United Airlines Hangar #14, Room #2 Newark Airport Newark, New Jersey 07114 Commercial: 201-645-3701 FTS: 8-341-3701

FAA EASTERN REGION (Continued)

ATSFOs

Air Transportation Security Field Office - DCA ATSFO Room 11, Commuter Terminal Washington National Airport Washington, D. C. 20001 Commercial: 703-557-0265 FTS: 8-557-0265

Air Transportation Security Field Office - IAD ATSFO Box 17174 Dulles International Airport Washington, D.C. 20041 Commercial: 703-661-8222 FTS: 8-557-0266

Air Transportation Security Field Office - JFK ATSFO Building #141, Room 260 JFK International Airport Jamaica, New York 11430 Commercial: 212-995-7080 FTS: 8-665-7080

Air Transportation Security Field Office - LGA ATSFO United Airlines Hangar #2 Room 322, La Guardia Airport Flushing, New York 11371 Commercial: 212-995-2860 FTS: 8-665-2860

Air Transportation Security Field
Office - PIT ATSFO
P. O. Box 12315, Administration Building
Greater Pittsburgh International
Airport
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15231
Commercial: 412-644-2845
FTS: 8-722-2845

FAA EASTERN REGION (Continued)

FAA GREAT LAKES REGION

Air Transportation Security
Division, AGL-700
2300 East Devon Avenue
Des Plaines, Illinois 60018
Commercial: 312-694-4500 x411
FTS: 8-384-9411

ATSFOs

Air Transportation Security Field Office - PHL ATSFO TWA Hangar, Room 310 Philadelphia International Airport Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19153 Commercial: 215-596-1970 FTS: 8-596-1970

Air Transportation Security Field Office - ORD ATSFO Room 158 2300 East Devon Avenue Des Plaines, Illinois 60018 Commercial: 312-694-4500 x289 FTS: 8-384-9289

Air Transportation Security Field
Office - CLE ATSFO
Cleveland Hopkins Int'l Airport
Room 104, Federal Facilities Building
Cleveland, Ohio 44135
Commercial: 216-433-7262
FTS: 8-293-4031

Air Transportation Security Field
Office - DTW ATSFO
James M. Davey, North Terminal Mezzanine
Detroit Metropolitan Airport
Detroit, Michigan 48242
Commercial: 313-941-1176
FTS: 8-374-3262

Air Transportation Security Field
Office - MSP ATSFO
Room 112
6301 - 34th Avenue, South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55450
Commercial: 612-725-3410
FTS: 8-725-3410

FAA NEW ENGLAND REGION

Air Transportation Security
Division, ANE-700
12 New England Executive Park
Burlington, Massachusetts 01803
Commercial: 617-273-7352
FTS: 8-836-1352

FAA NORTHWEST_REGION

Air Transportation Security Division, ANW-700 Boeing Field, FAA Building Seattle, Washington 98108 Commercial: 206-767-2555 FTS: 8-396-3555

FAA PACIFIC - ASIA REGION

Air Transportation Security
Division, APC-700
P. O. Box 50109
Honolulu, Hawaii 96850
Commercial: 808-546-8602
FTS: San Francisco Operator:
8-556-0220
ask for: 546-8602

FAA ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

Air Transportation Security
Division, ARM-700
10455 East 25th Avenue
Aurora, Colorado 80010
Commercial: 303-837-3411
FTS: 8-327-3411

ATSF0s

Air Transportation Security Field
Office - BOS ATSFO
Logan Int'l Airport, Room 218
General Aviation Administration Bldg.
East Boston, Massachusetts 02128
Commercial: 617-567-2591
FTS: 8-223-4595

Air Transportation Security
Field Office - SEA ATSFO
Room 426, Administration Building
SEA-TAC International Airport
Seattle, Washington 98158
Commercial: 206-767-2580
FTS: 8-396-2580

Air Transportation Security Field
Office - HNL ATSFO
P. O. Box 50109
Honolulu, Hawaii 96850
Commercial: 808-836-1055
FTS: San Francisco Operator:
8-556-0220
ask for: 836-1055

Air Transportation Security Field Office - DEN ATSFO 10455 East 25th Avenue Aurora, Colorado 80010 Commercial: 303-837-2337 FTS: 8-327-2337

<u>ATSFOs</u>

FAA ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION (Continued)

Air Transportation Security Field
Office - SLC Post of Duty
P. O. Box 22094
Salt Lake City International Airport
AMF Salt Lake City, Utah 84122
Commercial: 801-524-4032
FTS: 8-588-4032

Air Transportation Security Field
Office - BIL Post of Duty
Room 205
Billings Logan International Airport
Billings, Montana 59101
Commercial: 406-656-6108
FTS: 8-585-6236

FAA SOUTHERN REGION

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